[25th February 1929

(*b*) & (*c*) A draft Bill to amend the Madras Local Boards Act with reference to these conclusions is under preparation and it will be introduced when ready. The question whether the Village Panchayats Act should be repealed or revised will be decided when the provisions of the Local Boards Act are settled.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to the answers to clauses (*b*) and (*c*) of this question, may I enquire when the Bill which is being drafted will be introduced ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot say."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Approximately in how many months, Sir ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Perhaps in July, Sir."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I ask whether the Government or the Minister have accepted the recommendations of the conference and are drafting the Bill on that basis ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Bill is being drafted with some amendments and not exactly on the lines of the recommendations of the conference."

Application of the Government Order regarding public service qualifications to local bodies.

* 1435-A *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a Government Order has been issued recently regarding the employment of unqualified men by local bodies and if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the Council table ;

(*b*) whether some chairmen and local board presidents have construed the Government Order to be applicable to all their office subordinates and applied to the Government for exemptions even in respect of posts for which no qualifications have been prescribed and whether the Government Order is intended to apply to the holders of such posts ; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to issue a fresh Government Order making their intention clear on the point ?

A.—(*a*) A copy of [a] G.O. No. 3947, L. & M., dated 1st October 1928, regarding the employment of unqualified men by local bodies is laid on the table.

(*b*) Yes. The Government Order will obviously not apply to posts under local bodies in respect of which no qualifications have been prescribed by Government.

(*c*) The Government consider that G.O. No. 3947, L. & M., dated 1st October 1928, requires no elucidation.

Application of the Government Order regarding public service qualifications to local bodies.

* 1435-B *Q.*—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether G.O. No. 3947, L. & M., dated 1st October 1928, was issued to all local bodies enjoining them not to employ or continue in their service any persons who are not qualified according to the rules relating to public service ;

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 107 infra.

(b) whether the Government Order also says that if any of the presidents of local bodies and chairmen of municipal councils employ any persons who have not got the required qualifications, such presidents and chairmen will be liable to be surcharged with the pay of such employees;

(c) whether the Government propose to recommend the grant of any compensation in the case of persons of long service;

(d) whether the Government require that a certificate should be attached to every pay bill that the employee for whom the pay has to be drawn has the required qualification;

(e) whether it is the intention of the Government that the Government Order should be made applicable to all grades of officers irrespective of the fact that they have been long in service or that they belong to the clerical or other technical departments;

(f) whether the Government Order applies to those servants whose services have been lent to the local bodies by Government but who have or who have not been exempted by heads of the departments in which they were serving while in the Government service; and

(g) whether the Government will be pleased to restrict its application to servants who entered the service within three years?

A.—(a), (b) & (d) Yes.

(c) The Government may meet such cases as are really deserving by a relaxation of the rules; there is no intention to award compensation.

(e) & (f) Yes.

(g) The Government are not prepared to accept the suggestion.

Municipalities

Alleged arrears of taxes payable by Municipal Councillors.

*1436 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have taken any and if so, what steps to see that the taxes of the councillors payable to their municipalities are not in arrears?

A.—The Government have taken no special steps in this matter.

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU:—"May I know why the Government have taken no steps in the matter?" 11-15 a.m.

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Because there is the Local Fund Audit Department who will draw the attention of the Chairmen of Municipalities to realize the taxes due from such of those councillors who are in arrears."

Civil Justice

Status and comforts of jurors and assessors.

*1437 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact—

(1) that in proportion to the people possessing property, educational and voting qualifications, not more than one-tenth thereof are entered in the lists of jurors and assessors;